(b) if so, whether Delhi Bottling have complied with all the terms of the Consent?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pollution by Delhi Bottling Company Limited

1128. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Bottling Company Limited, located at 60, Shivaji Marg, Delhi 110 015 complied with the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Part 24(a) in respect of storm water, drainage and placing of noxious materials into any stream, well, sewer, or on land; and

(b) what system Delhi Bottling Company has put in place for management of boiler and pressure vessels and for handling and manipulation of corrosive substances?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development of Forests in Punjab

1129. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Punjab has submitted any project for development of forsts;

(b) if so, the details therefo;

(c) whether approval has been accorded by Government to the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Governemnt in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) State Government of Punjab has submitted a project proposal for development of forests at a cost of Rs. 408 crores over a period of 7 years. It envisages covering an area of 58,750 ha in Kandi and Plain areas of the State. Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan has agreed to support the project.

(e) The pre-project activities have already started under the project.

Destruction of Forest Area for development projects

1130. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are large amounts of underground mineral resources in forest areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Governemnts are also putting pressure to destroy such forest areas for development projects; and

(c) what action Government are taking to protext the limited area of forests from such development activities?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A large number of proposals ahve been received for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 from various State Governments for mining and other development projects.

(c) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted by the Central Government to regulate diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes. Proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are examined in accordance with the rules and guidelines laid under the Act. Diversion of forest